

2005

W I S C O N S I N

Migratory Bird Regulations



*2005 Waterfowl Stamp design
by Terry Doughty*

This year's state waterfowl stamp features the wood duck. The waterfowl stamps you purchase assist with the development and maintenance of wetland habitats that benefit waterfowl. Your support is crucial. Thank you.

Support Ethical Responsible Hunting

Report Violations

Call 1-800-Tip-WDNR

(1-800-847-9367)

US Cellular customers can dial #367

Toll Free • Statewide • 24-Hour • Confidential

(This is not an information number)



PUB-WM-010 2005

Dear Wisconsin Migratory Game Bird Hunter,

As I write this letter, it is a hot and dry August day. However, the cooler days of fall will soon be in the air. Waterfowl hunters often read about the spring breeding conditions and projections of the fall. While the breeding success each spring is important to fall numbers, your individual hunting experience may have little to do with these numbers. Three factors seem to be most important to the number of waterfowl you see during the season; fall water conditions, fall weather patterns and the time you spend scouting. I recommend you use these factors to plan and evaluate your waterfowling experience.

Some information to consider as you plan for your fall waterfowl hunting:

- 2005 WI breeding duck numbers were good but the state was very dry during May/June. I expect this to result in only fair brood production. A large proportion of our overall fall harvest typically depends on production from WI nesting ducks.
- Wetlands in Canada were dry in early spring when early nesting ducks would have arrived. Heavy rain in late spring/early summer improved conditions but not soon enough to help early nesting species. Average overall production is expected.
- The WI Canada goose harvest comes primarily from 2 sources; the Mississippi Valley Population (MVP) that breeds in northern Ontario and the giant population that breeds primarily in WI. Each year the proportion between these 2 populations shifts more toward WI raised geese. In 2005, the proportion is 49% giants and 48% MVP Canada geese.
- The last few years we have structured our Canada goose seasons with a Sept. opening day to harvest more of our resident geese. Based on the increasing percent of these birds in our harvest each year (49% in 2005 up from 17% in 1999) we have been successful. This shift in our harvest will result in higher and more stable statewide goose quotas in the years to come.
- For 2005, Canada geese breeding numbers were down in WI from 2004 but above the long-term average while breeding numbers were up 25% for MVP geese in Ontario.
- **Report your Canada goose harvest at 1-800-99-GOOSE (1-800-994-6673) and check the status of the Exterior Zone harvest at 1-877-833-2837. An early closure in the Exterior Zone may be required.**

I look forward to seeing you in the marsh this fall. Have a safe and enjoyable season.

Kent Van Horn
Migratory Game Bird Ecologist

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2005 Youth Waterfowl Hunt - Sept. 17 & 18

Who is eligible? Only persons age 12-15 may hunt waterfowl (ducks, geese, coots, gallinules and mergansers). All hunters must be accompanied by an adult chaperone age 18 years or older. The adult may not accompany more than two youth hunters. The adult may not hunt ducks, however, an adult may hunt geese in the Exterior Zone or the Horicon or Collins Zone if they possess the appropriate Canada goose permit for that time period and zone.

What type of licenses are needed? Successful completion of a Wisconsin Hunter Education Course (or similar hunter education course from another state) and HIP registration is required. All license and stamp requirements are waived for eligible youth waterfowl hunters except the Canada goose hunting permit.

What other rules apply? All other regulations listed in this pamphlet will apply. The hours are normal waterfowl hunting hours—1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset. The daily bag limit is the same as the regular season (pages 14-15, 22-23)—6 ducks to include not more than 4 mallards (only one hen), 1 black duck, 2 redheads, 2 wood ducks, 2 scaup, 1 pintail and 1 canvasback.

Does this youth hunt include goose hunting? Yes, the daily bag limit for Sept. 17-18 is 1 goose. In the Exterior Zone, a youth must purchase and possess an exterior goose permit and must report their harvest (page 24). In the Horicon and Collins zones, a youth possessing a valid tag for any time period within that zone may hunt geese within the zone where the tag is valid. The daily bag limit in these zones is 2 geese.

What's New in 2005

- ★ The Northern Duck Zone will run continuous (Sept. 24 – Nov. 22), and there will be a five day split in the Southern Duck Zone (Oct. 1 – Oct. 9 and Oct. 15 – Dec. 4).
- ★ A restriction has been placed on the hunting of canvasback ducks (except for the youth hunt). Canvasbacks may only be taken during the 30-day canvasback season (Oct. 15 - Nov. 13 statewide).
- ★ Pintails may be hunted for the entire 60-day season, statewide.
- ★ The daily bag limit for Canada geese in the Exterior Zone is 1 bird per day Sept. 17–Oct. 2 (Oct. 1 & 2 in the Mississippi River Subzone), and 2 birds per day from Oct. 3 to the end of the goose season. (See Pages 22 & 23).
- ★ Trapping on the Mississippi River: The waterfowl and trapping seasons will overlap within the Mississippi (Trapping) Zone—Chippewa River south to the Illinois state line. Trapping will begin on the 2nd Monday in November, providing a period of open water trapping opportunity during the waterfowl seasons. For more information please contact the LaCrosse Service Center at 608-785-9000.

Remember: Placement of waterfowl blinds on public land does not restrict others from using or hunting on the public land where the blind is located. Remember to be courteous of other hunters while in the field.

About the Cover

Terry Doughty was the 2005 winner of the state Waterfowl Stamp Contest with this painting of wood ducks. The contest is an annual event open to Wisconsin artists beginning in mid-May. Details may be obtained by writing Bureau of Wildlife Management, DNR, Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240.

This publication is available in alternate format (large print, Braille, audio tape, etc.) upon request. Call (608) 266-8204 for more information.



License Information

See page 3 for youth waterfowl hunt license exceptions on September 17-18.

- **License requirement.** A valid hunting license is required to hunt all migratory game birds in Wisconsin.
- **Age related regulations**
 1. **Persons born on or after January 1, 1973, must have a hunter education certificate to purchase any hunting license.**
 2. **Persons 12 and 13 years old** must be accompanied by a parent or adult guardian (18 years or older) while hunting.
 3. **Persons younger than 12 years old** may not hunt or purchase a hunting license.
 4. **Persons 12 years old and over** must have hunting licenses except 2005 Wisconsin hunter education graduates using a hunter education certificate during the period it is valid as a small game license.
 5. **Persons 16 years old and older** must purchase the state and federal waterfowl stamps to hunt ducks, geese or brant.

Note: First time Wisconsin Hunter Education Course graduates may use their hunter safety card in place of a small game license and state waterfowl stamp, regardless of their age.

- **License/permit/tag use:** It is illegal to allow someone else to use *or carry* your license, permit, tag or stamp, or for you to use *or carry* some other person's license, permit, tag or stamp.
- **Resident Licenses:** Small Game—\$18; Jr. Small Game (residents age 12-17)—\$9; Sr. Citizen Small Game—\$9; Sports—\$60; Jr. Sports—\$35; Conservation Patron—\$165 and Jr. Patron—\$75 (includes a State Waterfowl Stamp, but excludes a Federal Migratory Bird Stamp).
- **Nonresident Licenses:** Small Game—\$85; Five-day Small Game—\$55; Patron—\$600; Jr. Patron—\$77; Sports—\$275; Jr. Sports—\$36.
- **Senior Citizen Recreation Card:** This card is no longer offered (existing cards are still valid as long as the holder remains a Wisconsin resident): Card holders must purchase the Federal Migratory Bird Stamp annually; the Wisconsin Waterfowl Stamp privilege is not required. Card holders must be HIP registered annually (see page 6).
- **Wisconsin Waterfowl Stamp Privilege (\$7):** Available at DNR Service Centers and license vendors.
- **Federal Migratory Bird Stamp (\$15):** Available at U.S. Post Offices and some U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service offices.
- **Canada goose permit:** Required by everyone hunting Canada geese in Wisconsin. This permit is valid for only one zone as shown on the permit. (\$3.00 application fee for exterior zone, Horicon or Collins permits)

- **HIP Registration:** (FREE) Required annually by *everyone* hunting any species of migratory game birds in Wisconsin. Wisconsin is taking part in the National Migratory Game Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) to help determine the number of hunters and harvest levels of migratory game birds. If you intend to hunt migratory game birds (ducks, geese, woodcock, mourning dove, coots, rails, snipe or gallinule) in Wisconsin in 2005 you must be HIP registered in Wisconsin. If you registered in 2004, you will need to register again in 2005. You can register when purchasing your license or at any time prior to hunting migratory game birds.
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State and Federal Duck Stamps

Any person 16 years of age or older may hunt wild ducks, geese and brant provided such person possesses both: (1) A 2005 Wisconsin Waterfowl Stamp privilege noted on the person's valid hunting license. (2) A 2005 Federal Migratory Bird Stamp with the signature of the license holder written in ink across the face of the stamp. **Note:** *A person who has not reached the age of 16 years is not required to have either stamp. In addition, no one is required to have either stamp to hunt coot, gallinule, snipe, rails, mourning dove or woodcock.*

State and Federal Migratory Game Bird Restrictions

Migratory game birds include: ducks, geese, brant, rails, mourning dove, coots, gallinules and snipe. The restrictions which apply include all those listed in the 2005 Small Game Hunting Regulations (separate pamphlet) plus the following:

The following rules are both State (S) and Federal (F) unless specifically noted.

- **Dual violation:** Violation of state migratory bird regulations is also a violation of federal regulations.
- **Caution:** More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges and Federal Waterfowl Production Areas open to public hunting. For additional information on federal regulations, contact U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Federal Building, Fort Snelling, Twin Cities, MN 55111-4056. Telephone: (612) 713-5458. See page 10 for special non-toxic shot requirements. It is the hunter's responsibility to know what rules apply.

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is illegal to:

- **Hours:** Hunt before or after established hunting hours (pages 29-31).

- **Closed season:** Take migratory game birds during the closed season.
- **Daily bag limits:** Take or attempt to take, in any one day, more than one daily bag limit. **Group bagging for migratory game birds is not permitted.**
- **Field possession limit:** Possess more than one daily bag limit while at or between the place killed and the person's temporary or permanent abode.

Methods

1. Open Water (S)

“Open water” means any water beyond a natural growth of vegetation rooted to the bottom and extending above the water surface of such height as to offer whole or partial concealment to the hunter. Dead stumps and dead trees in the water do not constitute a natural growth of vegetation.

- **Open Water Hunting:** No person may hunt waterfowl in open water from, or with the aid of, any blind including any boat, canoe, raft, contrivance, or similar device except from:
 1. **Mississippi River:** Blinds in any of the waters of the Mississippi River and adjoining counties provided the blinds are securely anchored and located not more than 100 feet from any shoreline including islands. Blinds in open water in Grant County and the Lake Pepin portions of the Mississippi River are permitted regardless of the distance from shore provided the blinds are securely anchored.
 2. **Big Green Lake and Great Lakes area:** Blinds in open waters of Big Green Lake in Green Lake County, Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, and Green Bay if beyond 500 feet of any lake or bay shoreline. Blinds do not have to be anchored in these areas.
 3. **Lake Winnebago and Petenwell Flowage:** Blinds in open waters of Lake Winnebago and Petenwell flowage (north of state highway 21 and south of state highway 73) if located more than 1,000 feet from any shoreline, including islands, provided blinds are securely anchored.

Note: You may hunt in any open water area provided you are standing on the bottom without the aid of a blind. Blinds include, but are not limited to, any boat, canoe, raft or similar device that provides any concealment for the hunter. In areas where open water blinds are legal, (see above) they shall be removed at the close of hunting hours each day.

- **Jump Shooting:** The open water restrictions are not intended to prohibit legal jump shooting activities. It is legal to hunt by boat in streams. However, on larger bodies of water, where shooting shore to shore is not possible, the hunter must keep a portion of the boat in natural vegetation rooted to the bottom and offering concealment. Skirting the edge of rivers and lakes in this manner is considered legal.

2. Structures, Boats and Vehicles

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is illegal to:

- **Structures (S):** Hunt from any pier, dam, dock, breakwater or similar artificial structure. Class A disabled hunting permit holders are exempt.
- **Sink box:** Hunt from a sink box (a low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- **Waterfowl blind (S):** Establish a waterfowl blind on state property, including the bed of any navigable lake, prior to 7 days before the waterfowl season or leave it established beyond 7 days after the close of the waterfowl season. No person may maintain, occupy or use any blind left on state property during the season unless the owner's name, address and DNR customer identification number in the English language and in lettering one inch square or larger is affixed permanently to the blind and shall be readily visible and legible at all times.
- **Moving boats:** Hunt or shoot from any *moving* boat other than those propelled by paddle, oars or pole. Motorboats and sailboats must have their motors completely shut off and/or the sail furled, and its progress therefrom ceased before loading or discharging a firearm.
- **Vehicle use:** Take migratory game birds from, or with the aid or use of, any vehicle (does not include boats) except by qualified disabled persons under DNR permit. Federal rules prohibit taking migratory game birds from any motor vehicle, except paraplegics and persons missing one or both legs.

3. Devices

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is illegal to:

- **Decoys:** Hunt with decoys which are:
 - 1. Placed beyond 200 feet from the cover in which the hunter is located (S).
 - 2. Placed in the water prior to one hour before the opening of waterfowl hunting time (S).
 - 3. Left in the water more than 20 minutes after the close of waterfowl hunting time (S).

- 4. Left in the water unattended. *Note: You may leave decoys unattended on dry land (S).*
- 5. Live, regardless of distance from the hunter.

All live, tame, or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such birds from the sight of migratory wild waterfowl.

- **Bird calls:** Use records, tapes or CDs of migratory bird calls or sounds or electronically amplified imitations of bird calls.
- **Baiting:** Hunt by the aid of baiting or on or over a baited area where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. A baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the complete removal of the bait. Baiting includes placing, exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of salt, grain or other feed that could serve as a lure or attractant for migratory game birds to, on, or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them. Agricultural areas must be prepared in accordance with official recommendations to be legally hunted. It is a separate offense to place or direct placement of bait on or adjacent to an area that causes, induces, or allows another to hunt by the aid of bait or over a baited area. Hunters are responsible for ensuring that an area has not been baited and should verify its legality prior to hunting. The maximum federal penalties are: for hunting over bait: \$15,000/6 months jail, and placing bait: \$100,000/1 year jail. **See page 28 for special mourning dove baiting rules.**
- **Hazing:** Use in any manner any air, water, or motor-driven land conveyance for the purposes of concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up any migratory game bird to put them in the range of hunters.

4. Guns and Ammunition

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is illegal to:

- **Shotguns:** Hunt with anything other than a shotgun fired from the shoulder, bow and arrow, or by falconry. Persons possessing Class A disabled or crossbow hunting permits and resident hunters 65 years of age or older with a valid archery or small game license may use a crossbow. Taking migratory game birds with a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance is illegal.

- **Shotgun capacity:** Hunt with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.
- **Shot type:** Hunt with any type of lead or other toxic shot when hunting waterfowl, coots and gallinules. Any shot used must be non-toxic (see below). This means muzzleloaders must also use non-toxic shot. Only non-toxic sizes BB, BBB, T, or smaller are legal. Size F shot is illegal in Wisconsin. In addition, no person may possess any shot or shotshell loaded with shot material other than non-toxic shot when hunting waterfowl, coots or gallinules. *Note: Except as listed below, lead shot may be used to hunt woodcock, snipe, mourning dove, and upland game species. All “Shotgun Capacity” rules apply when hunting woodcock, mourning dove and snipe (see above).*
Only non-toxic shot may be possessed or used for hunting migratory and upland game species on the Horicon and Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuges and on federally owned Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), except that lead shot may be used for wild turkey hunting on the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuges and on federally owned Waterfowl Production Areas.
- Shoot a firearm within 100 yards of a building devoted to human occupancy while on lands of another without permission of the owner or occupant.

Approved shot type*	Percent composition by weight
bismuth-tin	97% bismuth, 3% tin
steel	iron and carbon
tungsten-bronze	51.1% tungsten, 44.4% copper, 3.9% tin, 0.6% iron
tungsten-iron (2 types)	40% tungsten, 60% iron and 22% tungsten, 78% iron
tungsten-matrix	95.9% tungsten, 4.1% polymer
tungsten-nickel-iron	50% tungsten, 35% nickel, 15% iron
tungsten-polymer	95.5% tungsten, 4.5% Nylon 6 or 11
tungsten-tin-bismuth	49-71% tungsten, 29-51% tin; 0.5-6.5% bismuth
tungsten-tin-iron-nickel	65% tungsten, 21.8% tin, 10.4% iron, 2.8% nickel

*Approved for use as of June, 2005

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- **Weapons transport (S):** Carry in or on a motor-driven boat while the motor is running, any firearm or bow unless such firearm is unloaded or such bow is unstrung or enclosed within a carrying case.

Possession Restrictions

- **Retrieval:** No person may kill or cripple any game bird without making every reasonable effort to retrieve such bird. This should be done without delay to prevent loss of the bird. Crippled birds should be immediately pursued.
- **Open water retrieval:** Crippled birds which fall or move into open water should be immediately pursued and a hunter may shoot crippled birds from a boat propelled by paddle, oars or pole. A shotgun may be uncased but may not be loaded or discharged while in a boat with the motor running and until all forward motion from the motor has ceased.
- **Tagging:** No person may give, put, or leave any migratory game birds (including mourning doves) at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:
 1. The hunter's signature.
 2. The hunter's address.
 3. The total number of birds involved, by species.
 4. The dates such birds were killed.

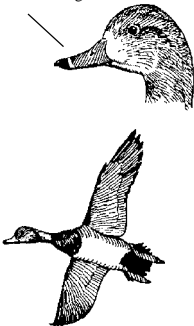
No person or business may receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged and a record of such receipt is kept by the person or business.

- **Possession of live birds:** Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.
- **Importation:** For information regarding the importation of migratory game birds killed in another country, hunters should consult 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66 (a copy can be obtained from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service address shown under "Caution" on page 6).
- **Shipment:** No person may ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with the:
 1. Name and address of the person sending the birds.
 2. Name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent.
 3. Number of birds, by species, contained in the package.
- **Transportation:** Migratory game birds may be field dressed before they are transported from the field. However, the head or one fully feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds while in or being (1) transported from the field *to* the person's temporary or permanent abode *and* (2) between a hunting cabin, camp, motel or other temporary abode *to* the permanent abode.

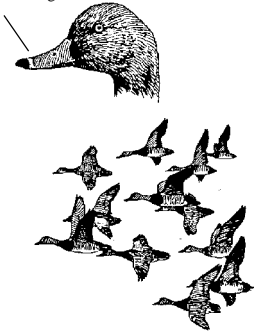
Know the difference!

Redhead

Hen: Brown head,
bluish bill
with white ring



Drake: Red head,
bluish bill
with white ring

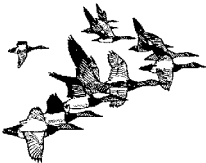


Canvasback

Drake:
Red head,
black bill

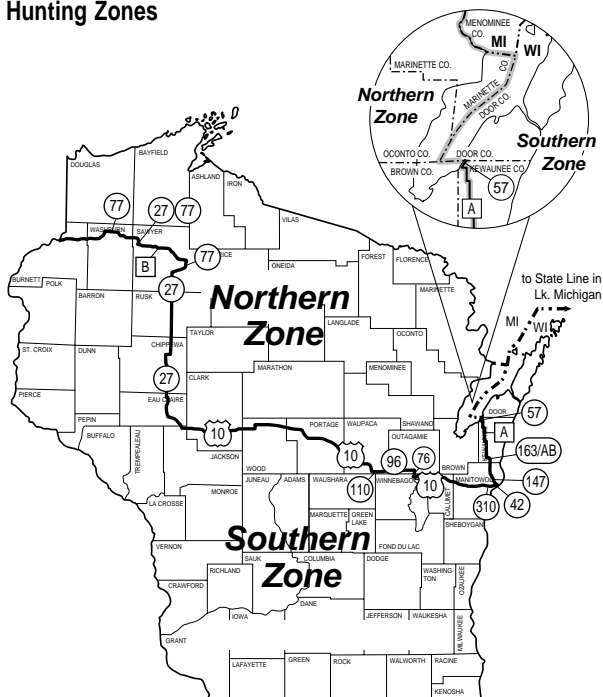


Hen:
Brown head,
black bill



Canvasbacks can be distinguished from the more abundant redhead duck by their long, black, wedge-shaped bills and elongated heads.

2005 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Zones



Note: All of Door County, as well as the eastern portion of Kewaunee County, and the southern and eastern portions of Manitowoc County are located in the Southern Zone as indicated in the map above.

Remember the Four Rules of Firearm Safety

1. Treat every gun as if it were loaded.
2. Always point the muzzle in a safe direction.
3. Be sure of your target and beyond.
4. Keep your finger out of the trigger guard until you're ready to shoot.



Northern Zone

2005 Migratory Game Bird Seasons (See detailed map on page 13)

Normal shooting hours (pages 29-31) apply except on September 24 when hunting begins at noon.

All Wild Ducks	September 24 at noon through November 22 except canvasbacks may only be taken Oct. 15 - Nov. 13.	Daily bag limit: 6 ducks to include not more than 4 mallards of which only 1 may be a hen, 1 black duck, 2 redheads, 2 wood ducks, 2 scaup, 1 pintail and 1 canvasback (Oct. 15 - Nov. 13). Possession limit: The possession limit is double the daily bag limit except for rails.	
		Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
Mergansers	Same as wild ducks. Daily bag may not include more than 1 hooded merganser.	5	10
Coot and Gallinule	Same as wild ducks.	10	20
Sora and Virginia Rails	Same as wild ducks.	25	25
Snipe	Same as wild ducks.	8	16
Woodcock	September 24 through November 7.	3	6
Mourning Doves	September 1 through October 30.	15	30

Falconry hunters see page 26 for season dates and bag limits.



Southern Zone

2005 Migratory Game Bird Seasons (See detailed map on page 13)

Normal shooting hours (pages 29-31) apply except on October 1 when hunting begins at noon.

All Wild Ducks	Oct. 1 at noon - Oct. 9 and Oct. 15 - Dec. 4 except canvasbacks may only be taken Oct. 15 - Nov. 13.	Daily bag limit: 6 ducks to include not more than 4 mallards of which only 1 may be a hen, 1 black duck, 2 redheads, 2 wood ducks, 2 scaup, 1 pintail and 1 canvasback (Oct. 15 - Nov. 13). Possession limit: The possession limit is double the daily bag limit except for rails.	
		Season Length	Possession Limit
Mergansers		Same as wild ducks. Daily bag may not include more than 1 hooded merganser.	10
Coot and Gallinule		Same as wild ducks.	20
Sora and Virginia Rails		Same as wild ducks.	25
Snipe		Same as wild ducks.	16
Woodcock		September 24 through November 7.	6
Mourning Doves		September 1 through October 30.	30

Falconry hunters see page 26 for season dates and bag limits.

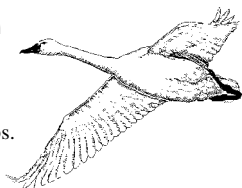
Don't Shoot a Swan!

Trumpeter Swans, a state endangered waterfowl species, have been reintroduced in Wisconsin by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Shooting a Trumpeter Swan may cost you up to \$4,000 in fines.

Protected Species — Trumpeter Swan and Tundra Swan

- Plumage: all white
- Long neck
- Wingspan: 7 ft.
- Length: 4 ft.
- Weight: 20-30 lbs.

Note: Swans in their first year of life appear grey.



Legal Game Species — Snow Goose

- Plumage: White, with black wing tips
- Short neck
- Wingspan: 3.5 ft.
- Length: 1.5 ft.

Note: Snow goose range is west of Wisconsin, few snow geese migrate through Wisconsin. Be sure of your target.



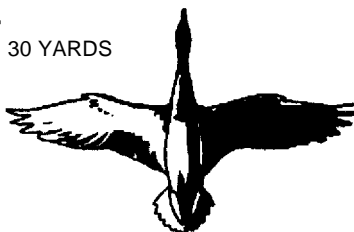
Prevent Crippling: These pictures represent the *actual size* of mallards at the effective range for steel shot. Test yourself continually during the season by holding your gun barrel up against these pictures. Thanks for your cooperation.



40 YARDS



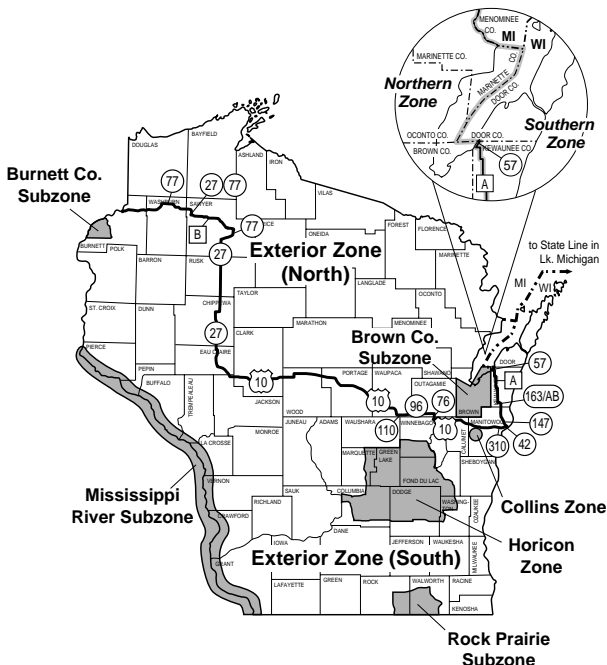
30 YARDS



Goose Hunting

Canada Goose Management Zones and Subzones

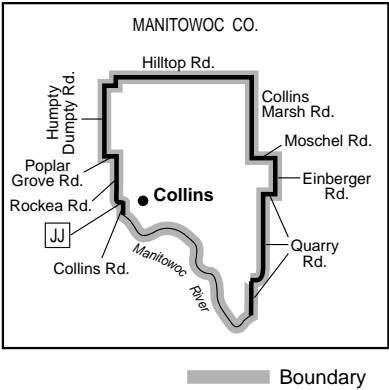
The state is divided into three management zones: Horicon; Collins; and Exterior. To hunt Canada geese in Wisconsin everyone must possess a Canada goose hunting permit which restricts them to one zone. Permits can be obtained by submitting a department application. Exterior Zone hunters may purchase an Exterior Zone permit until the close of the Exterior Zone Canada goose season. Hunters may hunt in only one zone and in the time period indicated on their permit.



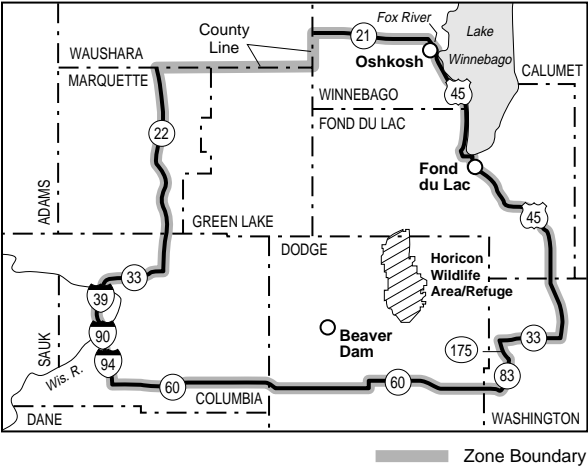
The Exterior Zone includes the following subzones: Brown County, Burnett County, Mississippi River, and Rock Prairie. Only persons having Exterior Zone permits are allowed to hunt Canada geese in these subzones. See page 19 for descriptions of subzone boundaries and season dates.

2005 Canada Goose Management Zone Boundaries

Collins Zone

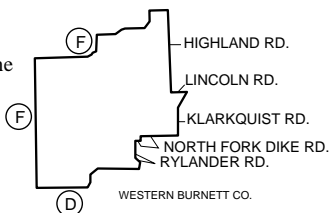


Horicon Zone



Subzone Seasons (Located within the Exterior Zone)

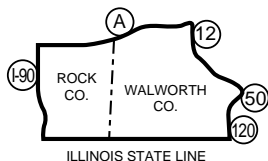
- *Burnett County*—No open season on Canada geese in the area shown.



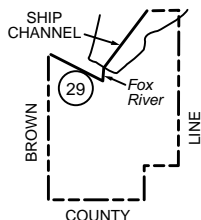
- *Rock Prairie*—Canada goose season:

Sept. 17 - Sept. 30 and

Oct. 1 at noon - Dec. 17



See pages 22-23 for bag limit restrictions.



- *Brown County*—Canada goose season:

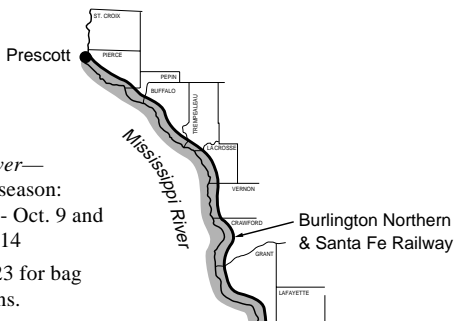
Sept. 17 - Sept. 23 and

Sept. 24 at noon - Dec. 17

See pages 22-23 for bag limit restrictions.

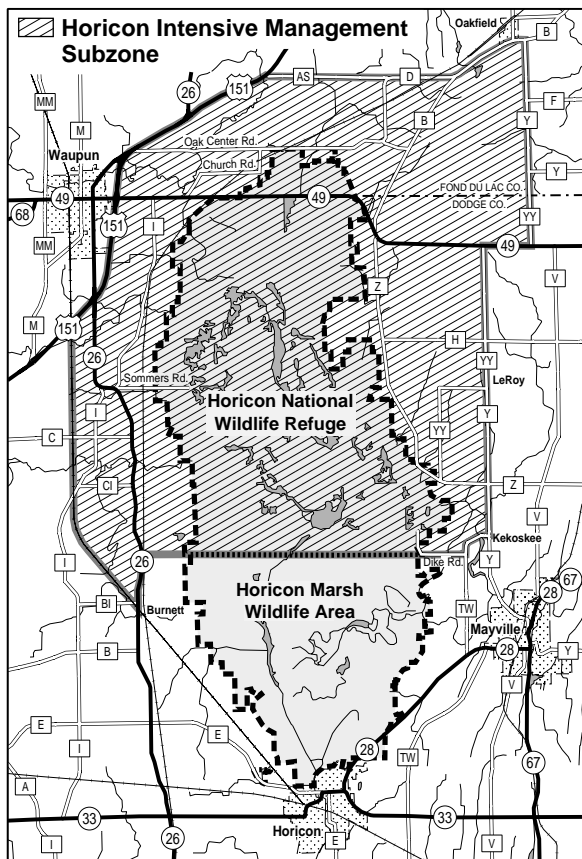
- *Mississippi River*—Canada goose season:
Oct. 1 at noon - Oct. 9 and
Oct. 15 - Dec. 14

See pages 22-23 for bag limit restrictions.



Horicon Intensive Management Subzone

The area shown on the following map is a specific area located *within* the Horicon Zone. This separate area has additional rules of its own (see page 21).



Blind Restrictions

Horicon Intensive Management Subzone

The following rules apply to the hunting of any species of geese during the regular goose season on any land in the Horicon Intensive Management Subzone.

While hunting as described above, you may not:

- Hunt geese, except from blinds, in the Horicon Intensive Management Subzone. Hunters with a Class A disabled hunting permit may hunt outside of, but within 20 feet of a blind.
- Hunt from a blind which is occupied by more than one other hunter (limit of two hunters per blind).
- Hunt from any blind placed within 200 yards of any other hunter-occupied blind.
- Hunt from any blind placed within 100 yards of the boundary of the property on which such blind is located.
- Place any blind within 75 yards of the Horicon Wildlife Refuge.
- Hunt migratory game birds in the Horicon National Wildlife Refuge.

In this special goose subzone, a blind is any framed enclosure or pit camouflaged to provide concealment. A blind may not be more than 15 feet in its greatest dimension. *Note: Crippled geese may be pursued on foot or by boat (described on page 11) with the aid of a dog and shotgun after being shot from your blind, provided you do not enter the Horicon National Wildlife Refuge.*

Canada Goose Permit Validation

Exterior Zone

When a Canada goose is killed and *before it is carried by hand or transported in any manner*, the hunter who killed the goose must validate their Canada goose hunting permit. Validation is accomplished by slitting or punching out the mark indicating the date of kill. Failure to follow validation procedure makes the possession of the goose illegal and can result in enforcement action.

**Pick up litter and
keep your hunting grounds healthy!**

2005 Goose Hunting Seasons

Normal shooting hours (pages 29-31) apply except on September 24 when goose hunting begins at noon in the Northern Zone and on October 1 when goose hunting begins at noon in the Southern Zone.

Canada Geese		Season Length	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
Horicon Zone	Period 1	Sept. 16 - Sept. 30 & Oct. 1 (noon) - Oct. 16	2	Equal to the number of carcass tags received by each hunter
	Period 2	Sept. 24 - Sept. 30 & Oct. 1 (noon) - Oct. 28	2	
	Period 3	Oct. 15 - Nov. 18	2	
	Period 4	Oct. 31 - Dec. 16	2	
Collins Zone	Period 1	Sept. 16 - Sept. 30 & Oct. 1 (noon) - Oct. 2	2	
	Period 2	Oct. 3 - Oct. 23	2	
	Period 3	Oct. 24 - Nov. 18	2	
Exterior Zone	North portion (includes Brown Co. Subzone)	Sept. 17 - Sept. 23 & Sept. 24 (noon) - Oct. 2	1	2
		Oct. 3 - Dec. 17	2	4
	South portion (includes Rock Prairie Subzone)	Sept. 17 - Sept. 30 & Oct. 1 (noon) - Oct. 2	1	2
		Oct. 3 - Dec. 17	2	4
	Burnett Co. Subzone	Closed	None	None
	Mississippi River Subzone	Oct. 1 (noon) & Oct. 2	1	2
		Oct. 3 - Oct. 9 & Oct. 15 - Dec. 14	2	4

Snow/blue geese, Ross' goose, other geese and Brant	Season Length	Daily Bag Limit and Possession Limit
Horicon Zone	Sept. 16 - Sept. 30 & Oct. 1 (noon) - Dec. 16	Bag limit: Fourteen daily to include not more than the legal daily limit of Canada geese, 10 white geese (snow/blue and Ross' goose), 1 white fronted goose and 1 brant.
Collins Zone	Sept. 16 - Sept. 30 & Oct. 1 (noon) - Nov. 18	
Exterior Zone	Sept. 17 - Sept. 23 and Sept. 24 (noon) - Dec. 17	
South portion (includes Burnett & Rock Prairie Subzones)	Sept. 17 - Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 (noon) - Dec. 17	
Mississippi River Subzone	Oct. 1 (noon) - Oct. 9 and Oct. 15 - Dec. 14	The possession limit is twice the daily bag limit for each species.

Emergency Closure—In the Exterior Zone, Canada goose hunting may be closed earlier than dates listed in this pamphlet if harvests exceed the quota. Closing will be done by Zone and Subzone. See “Hunting Curtailed” on page 27. To check the progress of the exterior zone season call **1-877-833-2837**.

Note: Horicon Zone landowners and hunters may be eligible for additional tags. See page 25 for details.

Canada Goose Reporting Requirements

Exterior Zone

You must report each harvested Canada goose within 48 hours of the kill by calling 1-800-99-GOOSE (1-800-994-6673) on either touchtone or rotary telephones. You may be prompted to record whether you harvested your geese in the northern or southern portions of the exterior goose zone.

To check the progress of the Exterior Zone Season call 1-877-833-2837.

Note: Canada goose permit holders and other waterfowl hunters may be mailed a special hunting report. This report must be completed and mailed to DNR. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Permits and tags are not transferable, cannot be reused, altered, or defaced and are only valid for the zone and time period specified on the permit.

Canada Goose Tagging Requirement

Collins and Horicon Zones

When a Canada goose is killed and *before it is carried by hand or transported in any manner by any person*, the hunter who killed the goose must:

- Validate the carcass tag by tearing or cutting out notches on the carcass tag. This designates the month, day and time of kill. Failure to follow this validation procedure invalidates the carcass tag.
- Completely attach the tag (utilizing its own adhesive) to the neck or leg of the Canada goose.

Canada Goose Transportation Restrictions

Collins and Horicon Zones

- You may only transport Canada geese in a motor vehicle in such a manner that the tag attached to the Canada goose cannot be handled by any occupant of the vehicle.
- You must keep the tag attached to the Canada goose until it reaches your home.

Special Horicon Zone Restriction

You may not hunt waterfowl from any road or railroad including their respective rights-of-way. *Note: Railroad rights-of-way are private property and trespass is prohibited unless permission is granted by the owner.*

Agricultural Damage Permits

Horicon Zone

Starting September 16, landowners or leasees with serious crop damage can apply for Canada goose damage hunting permits. They may use 2 Canada goose agricultural damage tags themselves and issue the remaining tags to Horicon Zone Canada goose hunters. The total number of tags available is limited and based on actual goose damage.

Hunter Eligibility: You must possess a Horicon Zone Canada Goose permit to receive additional Canada Goose tags under the damage program.

How to Participate: Contact the USDA Wildlife Services Office in Waupun at 920-324-4454. A recording will explain if agricultural damage goose tags are available and how to obtain and use them.

Restrictions: You may receive up to 2 tags from each landowner participating in the program. *Tags are valid for weekday hunting only.* In addition, you must use your regular Horicon Zone Canada goose tag(s) first if they are valid during the effective dates of the landowner's permit.

Bag Limit: Geese taken under the damage program are part of the daily bag. You may not exceed the daily bag for Canada geese shown on page 22.

Public or Private?

How do I know if I'm Trespassing?

- Navigability determines whether a waterway is public or private. Navigable lakes and streams are public waterways.
- A waterway is navigable if it has a bed and banks, and it is possible to float a canoe or other small craft at sometime of the year - even if only during spring floods.
- Because they are public, you may use navigable waters for fishing, hunting, boating, swimming or other recreational activities, provided public access is available, or you have permission of the landowner to cross their property to reach the waterway. Once on a navigable waterway, *as long as you keep your feet wet (remain in the water), you may walk, fish, hunt, swim, or boat in any navigable lake, stream or impoundment.*
- The public may only use the exposed shore area of a stream without the permission of the riparian land owner when it is necessary to exit the water to bypass an obstruction.
- It is not legal to enter uplands or exposed shore areas to retrieve game without permission of the land owner.

Falconry Seasons

The following special statewide seasons are established for Wisconsin licensed falconers:

Species	Dates	Daily Bag	Poss. Limit
Rails, woodcocks, snipe and gallinules	Sept. 1 - Dec. 16	3*	6*
Ducks, mergansers & coots	North Sept. 17 - 18 Sept. 24 (noon) - Nov. 22 Jan. 14 - Feb. 27 South Sept. 17 - 18 Oct. 1 (noon) - Oct. 9 Oct. 15 - Dec. 4 Jan. 14 - Feb. 27	3* 3* 3* 3* 3* 3* 3*	6* 6* 6* 6* 6* 6*
Geese	Same as statewide gun season	*	*

* The total daily bag limit for migratory game birds is three, singly or in aggregate, to include not more than the legal limit for Canada Geese (listed on page 22) in the zone in which you are hunting. The possession limit for migratory game birds is twice the daily bag.

Health Advisory

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has historically tested many wildlife species to detect contaminants that may pose risks to your health if you eat contaminated game. Contaminants tested in wildlife include pesticides such as DDT, DDE, and dieldrin; industrial chemicals, such as PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) or dioxins; and heavy metals, such as mercury, lead, and cadmium.

PCBs primarily pose health risks to human fetuses, infants, and children by slowing growth and development. PCB exposure has also been linked to cancer in adults and other health problems. Because PCBs may remain stored in body fat for years and pose long-term health risks, health professionals recommend that you limit your exposure to PCBs in your diet as much as possible.

The state Division of Health has issued the following health advice to protect you from exposure to PCBs in waterfowl taken in these areas.

Location	Health Advice
Lower Fox River from Lake Winnebago at Neenah and Menasha downstream, including Little Lake Butte des Morts, to the northeast city limits of Kaukauna	Remove all skin and visible fat before cooking mallard ducks using these waters. Discard drippings or stuffing because they may retain fat that contains PCBs
Lower Fox River from the DePere Dam to the river's mouth at Green Bay, and lower Green Bay south of a line from Point Sauble west to the west shore of Green Bay	
Sheboygan River from Sheboygan Falls downstream to the river's mouth at Lake Michigan	No one should eat mallard ducks using this water
Sheboygan Harbor	No one should eat lesser scaup (bluebills) using this water
Milwaukee River from Highway 167 (Thiensville) upstream to Lime Kiln Dam at Grafton and Cedar Creek from the Milwaukee River up to Bridge Road in the Village of Cedarburg	No one should eat mallard ducks using these waters
Milwaukee Harbor	No one should eat black ducks, mallards, scaup, and ruddy ducks using this water
Waters in the City of Cedarburg	No one should eat Canada geese using these waters

Note: The U.S. Food and Drug Administration standard for PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) in poultry is 3 parts per million calculated on a fat basis.

Other Important Information

- **Laws and rules:** This summary of regulations is designed as a service to hunters and is not intended to be a complete digest of all hunting regulations. For specific details, contact the nearest DNR Service Center. Federal regulations relating to migratory game birds are located in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20.
- **Hunting curtailed:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requires Wisconsin to restrict the Canada goose harvest outside the tag zones to a specific number. As a result, hunters are cautioned to expect emergency season closures if harvest trends indicate the quota will be exceeded during this year's hunt.
- **Closed areas & refuges:** Because these areas are so numerous, widely scattered and seasonably variable, accurate location maps cannot be provided in this pamphlet. However, all such areas on state land are

posted with signs which describe the type of hunting or trapping restrictions. Hunters should routinely scout their hunting area for any special sign before going afield. In addition, contact with the local Conservation Warden or Wildlife Biologist is encouraged. Dead or crippled game may be retrieved by hand without a firearm or with a firearm which is unloaded and enclosed in a proper carrying case or with the aid of a dog from any closed area or refuge unless posted to prohibit public entry.

- **Bird bands:** Should you obtain a bird band, report it by calling 1-800-327-BAND (1-800-327-2263). To report a band by mail, flatten it out and tape it to a 3x5 card or simply write the number on a 3x5 card. Add the date on which the bird was recovered, the location of recovery, and your name and address. Mail the card to: U.S. Geological Survey B.B.L.; 12100 Beach Forest Rd.; Ste.-4037; Laurel, Maryland 20708-4037. Thank you for your help!

Report your recovered bird band on-line:

<http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl/homepage/call800.htm>

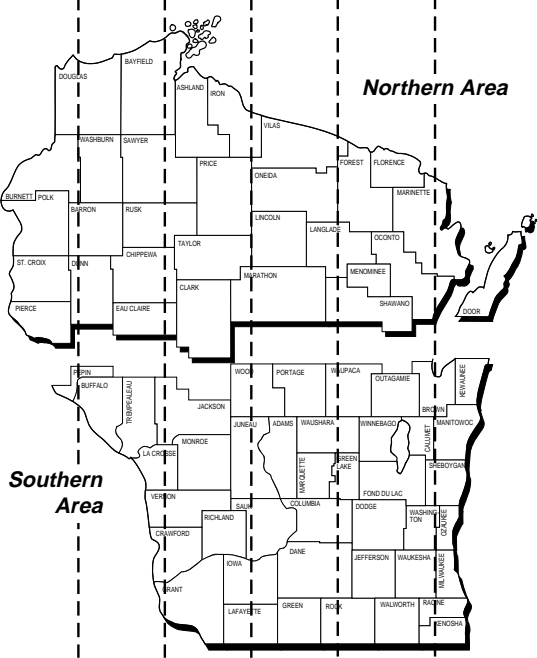
- **Boating:** Be sure you are properly equipped while hunting with the aid of a boat. Be aware of the dangers of hypothermia and overloading. For more information, ask for a boating regulation pamphlet at your local DNR office.
- **Invasive plant control rules:** No person may place a boat or boating equipment or place a boat trailer in a navigable water if the person has reason to believe the boat or equipment has any aquatic plant attached.
- **Vehicle Restrictions:** On federal waterfowl production areas, motorized vehicles are prohibited. Vehicles include, but are not limited to, snowmobiles, trail bikes, all terrain vehicles and motor boats.
- **Mourning Dove Baiting:** Federal baiting regulations are more restrictive for waterfowl hunting than for dove hunting. You may hunt doves where grain has been distributed solely as a result of normal agricultural operation. In addition, agricultural crops may be manipulated to improve dove hunting. Refer to page 19 of the *2005 Small Game Hunting Regulations* for a definition of manipulation.

Hunting Hours

- Hunting hours for all migratory game birds are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. These hours are shown in the tables on pages 30 and 31.
- Hunting hour zones are established for hunting migratory game birds as shown on the zone map. Actual hunting hours for *Zone A* are shown on pages 30 and 31.
- To establish the opening and closing times for any day in another zone, first determine if you are hunting in the Northern or Southern area.
- Add the minutes shown for the zone in which you are hunting to the open and closing times listed in either the Northern or Southern Zone A hunting hours table.

Zone Map

Zone F + 20 min. Zone E + 16 min. Zone D + 12 min. Zone C + 8 min. Zone B + 4 min. Zone A in table



Northern Area Hunting Hours – Zone A Table

	Sept. 2005		Oct. 2005		Nov. 2005		Dec. 2005	
Date	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
1	5:41	7:28	6:19★	6:30	6:00	4:37	6:41	4:08
2	5:43	7:26	6:20	6:28	6:02	4:35	6:42	4:07
3	5:44	7:24	6:21	6:26	6:03	4:34	6:43	4:07
4	5:45	7:22	6:22	6:24	6:05	4:32	6:44	4:07
5	5:46	7:20	6:24	6:22	6:06	4:31	6:45	4:06
6	5:48	7:18	6:25	6:20	6:07	4:30	6:46	4:06
7	5:49	7:16	6:26	6:19	6:09	4:28	6:47	4:06
8	5:50	7:14	6:28	6:17	6:10	4:27	6:48	4:06
9	5:51	7:12	6:29	6:15	6:12	4:26	6:49	4:06
10	5:53	7:11	6:30	6:13	6:13	4:25	6:50	4:06
11	5:54	7:09	6:32	6:11	6:14	4:23	6:51	4:06
12	5:55	7:07	6:33	6:09	6:16	4:22	6:52	4:06
13	5:56	7:05	6:34	6:08	6:17	4:21	6:53	4:06
14	5:57	7:03	6:36	6:06	6:19	4:20	6:53	4:06
15	5:59	7:01	6:37	6:04	6:20	4:19	6:54	4:07
16	6:00	6:59	6:38	6:02	6:21	4:18	6:55	4:07
17	6:01	6:57	6:40	6:01	6:23	4:17	6:56	4:07
18	6:02	6:55	6:41	5:59	6:24	4:16	6:56	4:08
19	6:04	6:53	6:42	5:57	6:25	4:15	6:57	4:08
20	6:05	6:51	6:44	5:55	6:27	4:14	6:57	4:08
21	6:06	6:49	6:45	5:54	6:28	4:14	6:58	4:09
22	6:07	6:47	6:46	5:52	6:29	4:13	6:58	4:09
23	6:09	6:45	6:48	5:50	6:31	4:12	6:59	4:10
24	6:10★	6:43	6:49	5:49	6:32	4:11	6:59	4:11
25	6:11	6:41	6:50	5:47	6:33	4:11	7:00	4:11
26	6:12	6:40	6:52	5:46	6:35	4:10	7:00	4:12
27	6:14	6:38	6:53	5:44	6:36	4:10	7:00	4:13
28	6:15	6:36	6:55	5:42	6:37	4:09	7:00	4:13
29	6:16	6:34	6:56	5:41	6:38	4:08	7:01	4:14
30	6:17	6:32	5:57	4:39	6:40	4:08	7:01	4:15
31			5:59	4:38			7:01	4:16

★Waterfowl hunting hours begin at noon on Sept. 24 in the Northern Waterfowl Zone and at noon on Oct. 1 in the Southern Waterfowl Zone. The noon opener does not apply to woodcock or mourning dove hunting.

Southern Area Hunting Hours – Zone A

	Sept. 2005		Oct. 2005		Nov. 2005		Dec. 2005	
Date	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
1	5:45	7:26	6:19 ★	6:32	5:57	4:41	6:35	4:15
2	5:46	7:24	6:20	6:30	5:58	4:40	6:36	4:15
3	5:47	7:23	6:21	6:28	6:00	4:39	6:37	4:14
4	5:48	7:21	6:22	6:26	6:01	4:37	6:38	4:14
5	5:49	7:19	6:23	6:24	6:02	4:36	6:39	4:14
6	5:50	7:17	6:25	6:23	6:04	4:35	6:40	4:14
7	5:51	7:15	6:26	6:21	6:05	4:34	6:41	4:14
8	5:53	7:14	6:27	6:19	6:06	4:33	6:42	4:14
9	5:54	7:12	6:28	6:17	6:08	4:31	6:43	4:14
10	5:55	7:10	6:29	6:16	6:09	4:30	6:44	4:14
11	5:56	7:08	6:31	6:14	6:10	4:29	6:45	4:14
12	5:57	7:06	6:32	6:12	6:12	4:28	6:46	4:14
13	5:58	7:04	6:33	6:10	6:13	4:27	6:46	4:14
14	5:59	7:03	6:34	6:09	6:14	4:26	6:47	4:14
15	6:00	7:01	6:35	6:07	6:16	4:25	6:48	4:14
16	6:02	6:59	6:37	6:05	6:17	4:24	6:49	4:15
17	6:03	6:57	6:38	6:04	6:18	4:23	6:49	4:15
18	6:04	6:55	6:39	6:02	6:19	4:23	6:50	4:15
19	6:05	6:53	6:40	6:01	6:21	4:22	6:51	4:16
20	6:06	6:52	6:42	5:59	6:22	4:21	6:51	4:16
21	6:07	6:50	6:43	5:57	6:23	4:20	6:52	4:17
22	6:08	6:48	6:44	5:56	6:24	4:20	6:52	4:17
23	6:09	6:46	6:45	5:54	6:26	4:19	6:53	4:18
24	6:11 ★	6:44	6:47	5:53	6:27	4:18	6:53	4:18
25	6:12	6:42	6:48	5:51	6:28	4:18	6:53	4:19
26	6:13	6:41	6:49	5:50	6:29	4:17	6:54	4:20
27	6:14	6:39	6:51	5:48	6:30	4:17	6:54	4:20
28	6:15	6:37	6:52	5:47	6:32	4:16	6:54	4:21
29	6:16	6:35	6:53	5:45	6:33	4:16	6:54	4:22
30	6:18	6:33	5:55	4:44	6:34	4:15	6:55	4:23
31			5:56	4:43			6:55	4:24

★Waterfowl hunting hours begin at noon on Sept. 24 in the Northern Waterfowl Zone and at noon on Oct. 1 in the Southern Waterfowl Zone. The noon opener does not apply to woodcock or mourning dove hunting.

You may purchase licenses with your MasterCard or Visa by phone at 1-877-WI-LICENSE for a \$3.00 handling fee, or on the Internet at dnr.wi.gov.

DNR Service Centers

Office hours may vary by location. Please call ahead.

South Central Region (Fitchburg)	608-275-3266
Madison (Central Office)	608-266-2621
Dodgeville	608-935-3368
Horicon	920-387-7860
Janesville	608-743-4800
Poynette	608-635-8110
Southeast Region (Milwaukee)	414-263-8500
Plymouth	920-892-8756
Sturtevant	262-884-2300
Waukesha	262-574-2100
West Central Region (Eau Claire)	715-839-3700
Baldwin	715-684-2914
Black River Falls	715-284-1400
La Crosse	608-785-9000
Wausau	715-359-4522
Wisconsin Rapids	715-421-7800
Northern Region (Spooner)	715-635-2101
Antigo	715-627-4317
Ashland	715-685-2900
Cumberland	715-822-3590
Hayward	715-634-2688
Ladysmith	715-532-3911
Park Falls	715-762-3204
Rhineland	715-365-8900
Superior	715-392-7988
Woodruff	715-356-5211
Northeast Region (Green Bay)	920-622-5100
Oshkosh	920-424-3050
Peshtigo	715-582-5000
Sturgeon Bay	920-746-2860
Wautoma	920-787-4686

General mailing address:
Department of Natural Resources,
Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707